

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITY

Rejeto: 25-1-2005
KRKA d.d., Novo Mesto

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF
THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Rule 71.1)

To:
KRKA, D.D., NOVO MESTO
Industrial Property Department,
Smarješka cesta 6
8501 Novo mesto
SLOVENIE

Date of mailing (day/month/year)	22.11.2004
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Applicant's or agent's file reference KRKA2002/175	IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION	
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International application No. PCT/SI 03/00024	International filing date (day/month/year) 14.07.2003	Priority date (day/month/year) 15.07.2002
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Applicant KRKA, D.D., NOVO MESTO et al.
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1. The applicant is hereby notified that this International Preliminary Examining Authority transmits herewith the international preliminary examination report and its annexes, if any, established on the international application.
2. A copy of the report and its annexes, if any, is being transmitted to the International Bureau for communication to all the elected Offices.
3. Where required by any of the elected Offices, the International Bureau will prepare an English translation of the report (but not of any annexes) and will transmit such translation to those Offices.

4. REMINDER

The applicant must enter the national phase before each elected Office by performing certain acts (filing translations and paying national fees) within 30 months from the priority date (or later in some Offices) (Article 39(1)) (see also the reminder sent by the International Bureau with Form PCT/B/301).

Where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report. It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned.

For further details on the applicable time limits and requirements of the elected Offices, see Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide.

The applicant's attention is drawn to Article 33(5), which provides that the criteria of novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability described in Article 33(2) to (4) merely serve the purposes of international preliminary examination and that "any Contracting State may apply additional or different criteria for the purposes of deciding whether, in that State, the claimed inventions is patentable or not" (see also Article 27(5)). Such additional criteria may relate, for example, to exemptions from patentability, requirements for enabling disclosure, clarity and support for the claims.

Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:	Authorized Officer
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 European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465	Ulrich, J
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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY
PCT
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT
(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference KRKA2002/175	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)
International application No. PCT/SI 03/00024	International filing date (day/month/year) 14.07.2003	Priority date (day/month/year) 15.07.2002	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC A61K31/551			
Applicant KRKA, D.D., NOVO MESTO et al.			

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.

This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I Basis of the opinion
- II Priority
- III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV Lack of unity of invention
- V Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI Certain documents cited
- VII Certain defects in the international application
- VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 06.01.2004	Date of completion of this report 22.11.2004
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx. 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465	Authorized Officer Wolf, C Telephone No. +49 89 2399-8285



INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/SI 03/00024

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application (Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17):

Description, Pages

1-19 as originally filed

Claims, Numbers

1-23 as originally filed

Drawings, Figures

1-6 as originally filed

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:

- the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- contained in the international application in written form.
- filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- the description, pages:
- the claims, Nos.:
- the drawings, sheets:

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/SI 03/00024

5. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)).
(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)
6. Additional observations, if necessary:

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	1.23
	No: Claims	
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	1-17
	No: Claims	18-23
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-23
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/SI 03/00024

re item V:

The following documents are cited in the International Search Report:

- D1: WO 01/47933 A (WAIN CHRISTOPHER PAUL ;HAMIED YUSUF KHWAJA (IN); RAO DHARMARAJ RAM) 5 July 2001 (2001-07-05)
- D2: EP-A-0 733 634 (LILLY INDUSTRIES LTD ;LILLY CO ELI (US)) 25 September 1996 (1996-09-25)
- D3: EP-A-0 733 635 (LILLY INDUSTRIES LTD ;LILLY CO ELI (US)) 25 September 1996 (1996-09-25)
- D4: US-A-5 229 382 (CHAKRABARTI JIBAN KUMAR ET AL) 20 July 1993 (1993-07-20).

The processes for preparing olanzapine form I, specific solvates of olanzapine as starting material and the polymorph form (A) of olanzapine and its preparation process as claimed in present claims 1-23 appear to be novel in the light of D1-D4.

Technical problem underlying the present application was the provision of an alternative process for the preparation of form I of olanzapine.

As the Applicant submitted with his last letter the process as claimed is superior over the closest prior art process disclosed in D4 by using a solvent mixture containing 2-propanol. So this process and the new starting material appears to involve an inventive step over the prior art.

However, claims 18-23 which refer to a new polymorph A of olanzapine and the process for the preparation thereof appear to lack an inventive step.

The new polymorph A appears to have the same pharmacological effect as the other known polymorphs and the process for its preparation in claim 22 appears to be a common process (without the essential feature of 2-propanol) and has no reference back to the process of claim 1 where 2-propanol is involved on which the inventive step assessment of claims 1-17 has been based.

In the regional phase a non-unity objection could be made since claim 1-17 and claims 18-23 appear to correspond to two different technical problems (the essential feature of 2-propanol missing in the process for the preparation of polymorph A).